

**LAKE TAHOE BASIN
FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION REPORT
D R A F T**

**APPENDIX A
PERTINENT FRAMEWORK STUDY
CORRESPONDENCE**

Prepared for:
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento, CA

April 2004

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United States Senate
 COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
 WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6026
www.senate.gov/appropriations

February 27, 2003

Robert P. Flowers
 Lieutenant General, USA
 Commanding
 441 G. St. NW
 Washington, DC 20314

Dear General Flowers,

I understand that the Sacramento District Planning staff will be holding the first of several workshops for the development of the Lake Tahoe Basin Framework Implementation Study on March 11, 2003. I am sending you this letter to emphasize my desires concerning this effort. But first, please let all workshop participants know that I appreciate the time being committed and understand the impact this project will have on existing workloads. The eventual success of the Study, and ultimately the future of the Lake Tahoe Basin, will require everyone's attendance and active participation.

Over the last five years, the Lake Tahoe Basin has witnessed many individual successes aimed to keep Lake Tahoe blue. These project-by-project activities have netted localized benefits to the environment, wildlife and the local economy, and it is gratifying to know that U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies are making progress. However, many daunting and complex challenges face the Lake Tahoe Basin and a business-as-usual approach will not meet the needs of the region.

I view the ultimate goal of the Lake Tahoe Basin Framework Implementation Study to develop a "plan of action" that builds above and beyond the historical successes and implements a strategy to proactively deal with the complex and complicated issues facing the Basin. Therefore, the long-term strategy of the Study must focus on programmatic or Basin-wide solutions based on multi-agency cooperation. Through such cooperation, we break down the barriers that have kept agencies from realizing Basin-wide solutions. A programmatic approach will allow better communication and collaboration, and allow entities in the Basin to work together to eliminate redundancies and streamline processes. All in all this will increase effectiveness, efficiency, and productivity.

Your agency has been asked to provide a report to Congress by spring of 2004. I expect that by using this report and its findings, my staff will be able to guide future legislative actions. Findings should include a programmatic approach to short- and long-term solutions for the Basin. This approach will ensure that Federal staff and funding are effectively used and progress is realized in the improvement of the Lake Tahoe Basin.

I want to hear the ideas and recommendations that provide me with an implementable course of action. Whether its changes to agency roles or special funding strategies – no thinking is too broad. My staff and I will do everything possible to ensure success in the Lake Tahoe Basin and I look forward to working with all agencies within the Basin to that result.

My best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry Reid", is written over a printed name.

HARRY REID

Ranking Member, Energy and Water
Development Subcommittee

*Co-Chairs:*

Steve Teshara

Rochelle Nason

Andrew Strain

*California Ski Industry
Association**Incline Village
Crystal Bay Chamber
of Commerce**Incline Village
Crystal Bay Visitor &
Convention Bureau**Lake Tahoe Gaming
Alliance**Lake Tahoe Visitors
Authority**North Lake Tahoe
Resort Association**South Lake Tahoe
Chamber of Commerce**Stateline
Redevelopment
Partnerships**Tahoe-Douglas
Chamber of Commerce**Tahoe-Sierra
Preservation Council**The League to Save
Lake Tahoe*

January 5, 2004

Colonel (P) Joseph Schroedel
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
South Pacific Division
333 Market Street, Room 1101
San Francisco, CA 94105-2195

Re: Coordination of Lake Tahoe Basin Framework Implementation Study
(Study) and Report and the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act
Amendment (SNPLMA)

Dear Colonel Schroedel:

The Lake Tahoe Transportation & Water Quality Coalition respectfully requests that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) continue its assistance and collaboration with the Coalition and other Lake Tahoe partners in developing a "locally preferred alternative" in coordination with the SNPLMA, and integrate this alternative and other associated work into the Corps' Study effort.

The Coalition is currently focused on the following to assist in completion of the Report:

- Preparation of the locally preferred alternative in the form of a process to implement the Tahoe Amendment to the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA). This work is being done with the help of staff from key Federal and State agencies, as well as the Desert Research Institute. Coordination of this proposed process is underway with the Bureau of Land Management (which administers the SNPLMA) to ensure concurrence.
- Reviewing and providing comment on measures to increase efficiency and effectiveness of Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) implementation as developed through the Corps' Framework Study effort.
- Suggesting specific changes to current authorities for the essential Federal agencies responsible for EIP implementation.

Colonel Schroedel, page 2

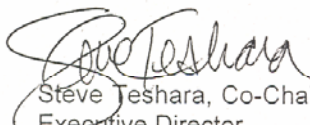
- Suggesting Federal agency EIP management system elements that would be most feasible and increase effectiveness.


We believe the work currently being completed is consistent with the Congressional intent of the Corps' Report and will be of great value to Lake Tahoe and the process of implementing the EIP. We understand that the Report is required to be completed and submitted in the near future, and are making every effort to keep within the required timetable.

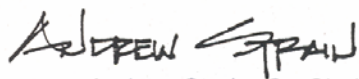
The Coalition also respectfully requests that the Corps continue to provide technical assistance to enable us to monitor the progress of the Study as it is reviewed by the Corps and considered by Congress.

Thank you for your review and consideration of our requests.

Very Sincerely Yours,


Steve Teshara, Co-Chair
Executive Director
North Lake Tahoe
Resort Association


Rochelle Nason, Co-Chair
Executive Director
League to Save Lake Tahoe


Andrew Strain, Co-Chair
Vice President, Planning & Governmental Affairs
Heavenly Ski Resort

cc: Colonel Michael J. Conrad, Jr., District Engineer, Sacramento District
Ms. Linda Finley-Miller, Chief, Programs & Project Management Division
Mr. Ken Hitch, Chief, Planning Division
Ms. Susan M. Fry, HDR